

**To:** Tom Hagler/R9/USEPA/US@EPA[]  
**From:** "Burns, Gordon@EPA"  
**Sent:** Tue 5/8/2012 6:52:23 PM  
**Subject:** RE: BDCP Follow-up  
[hagler.tom@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:hagler.tom@epamail.epa.gov)

Thanks, Tom. You didn't bend my ear too much; I think I'll need more bending. Let's please keep in touch.

From: Tom Hagler [mailto:Hagler.Tom@epamail.epa.gov]  
Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2012 11:37 AM  
To: Burns, Gordon@EPA  
Subject: Fw: BDCP Follow-up

Nice talking to you. Hope I didn't bend your ear too much.

I decided that rather than deluging you with "stuff", I would just send you a short article from this morning's paper. Just as a further reality check.

It is attached below.

And I offer up myself as a resource for background or as an EPA rep or however you think I could be useful from here.

Welcome back to the Delta!  
Draft plan for canal delayed

By The Record

May 08, 2012

State officials announced a delay last week in a draft plan to build a peripheral canal or tunnel, triggering concern Friday from water districts dependent on diversions from the Delta.

In a letter to the federal government, California Secretary for Natural Resources John Laird said the release of environmental documents would be delayed. Those documents were supposed to come out at the end of June but are still being reviewed by wildlife agencies that must ultimately approve the plan.

Laird said an announcement will still be made in July about the "key elements" of the project.

But the lack of a formal draft Bay Delta Conservation Plan means that after six years and \$150 million, there remains no officially proposed project.

The Kern County Water Agency, which relies on water exported from the Delta, threatened Friday to withhold funding from the plan in light of the announced delay. Districts that receive the water and would stand to benefit from a canal or tunnel are paying for the development of the plan.

In a letter to Laird, the Kern agency called the delay "costly and unacceptable."

The State Water Contractors, which represents 27 public agencies receiving Delta water, called it "deeply troubling" that, considering the amount of money spent, the agencies are still unable to make necessary decisions.

Laird's letter does not indicate how long the delay will last.

The canal concept has been studied for more than 40 years. The new aqueduct would take water from the Sacramento River and divert it past the Delta instead of allowing it to flow through the estuary. It is widely opposed in San Joaquin County.

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